



Bridget Fleming
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Legislator Fleming Reestablishes the Tick Control Advisory Committee



CAPTION: Legislator Fleming at the General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature on September, 7, 2016 in the hamlet of Riverside, Town of Southampton.

At the General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature on September 7, 2016, Second District Legislator Bridget Fleming and her present colleagues voted unanimously to reestablish the county Tick Control Advisory Committee (TCAC) to oversee and advise the County's newly-created Tick Research and Management Program (TSMP). The TCAC was initially constructed by former legislator Jay Schneiderman in 2014.

The reestablishment of the committee comes just a few short months after Legislator Fleming successfully advocated to include funding in the 2017-19 Capital Budget for tick management and control purposes, a new Capital Project (CP 4091) which led to the establishment of the "TSMP". The 2017-19 Capital Budget is the first Suffolk County Budget to allocate funds specifically for tick management and control purposes. "Tick-borne illness is a serious threat to the health of Suffolk County residents, and deters locals and tourists alike from enjoying our world class parks and natural resources" stated Fleming. "The goal of the Tick Surveillance and Management Program is to develop a plan to control the tick population in Suffolk County efficiently and effectively, and to serve as a national model for addressing this public health crisis."

The new committee will be made up of 16 committee members who will meet 3-4 times a year to review tick control methods and management options, as well as provide advice to the TSMP and input to the annual vector control plans.